*I want to take a few minutes on this video to compare the ministry of William Branham to the ministry of Balaam. You might ask why I would do this or maybe some would say how dare you do this? The Scriptures tell us to know those who labor among us*.

I THESSALONIANS 5:

12 And we beseech you, brethren, to know them which labour among you, and are over you in the Lord, and admonish you;

*There are ministers whom God has ordained to feed His flock but there are many who have placed themselves in a position to rule over God’s sheep who do not have that authority. That is why we must know the difference between them, and we are told to prove all things.*

I THESSALONIANS 5:

21 Prove all things; hold fast that which is good.

22 Abstain from all appearance of evil.

*To prove means to test, to examine and to scrutinize. The New Testament provides means to prove things, and one of them is by examining the fruit which is produced.*

MATTHEW 7

20 Wherefore by their fruits ye shall know them.

LUKE 6:

44 For every tree is known by his own fruit. For of thorns men do not gather figs, nor of a bramble bush gather they grapes.

*We are also able to detect and avoid error by studying and knowing the Scripture. The New Testament tells us to do so more than 150 times. Jesus told the Sadducees that, in fact, their error was caused by knowing neither the Scriptures nor the power of God.*

MATTHEW 22:

29 Jesus answered and said unto them, Ye do err, not knowing the scriptures, nor the power of God.

*I believe all religious error comes from not knowing the Scriptures, or from not trusting to the sufficiency of Scripture. Scripture is not just the final authority, it is the only authority by which all doctrine and all ministries are to be judged.*

GALATIANS 1:

8 But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed.

*People who believe the Scripture will have no problem judging by fruit and by Scripture.*

*William Branham’s ministry is credited with starting what is known as the healing revival and, after his death in 1965, the influence of his ministry has been carried forward into what is called the charismatic revival. (While most professing Christians disagree with the doctrine he taught, William Branham referred to himself as a prophet hundreds of times, and is received as a prophet by those who accept his teaching, largely because of the supernatural aspect of his ministry.)*

*I have questioned the supernatural in William Branham’s ministry since I have discovered many Scriptural errors in his message. Further, I have found numerous statements he made, which others call exaggerations, to be what I believe to be delusions.*

*I do believe William Branham had a supernatural power working with him and I disagree with those who would say it was a fraud. I have prayed for an answer if it would be the Lord’s will to let me know the source of the supernatural in William Branham’s life.*

*I found my answer by studying the ministry of the Old Testament prophet, Balaam, and comparing it with William Branham’s own statements. Balaam also had a supernatural ministry and had great influence upon people until even today as his ways and his doctrine continue to be followed. He is mentioned over 50 times in the Old Testament and in the New Testament, the Apostle Peter mentioned those whose ministries attract unstable souls for the love of the wages of unrighteousness as being the way of Balaam.*

II PETER 2:

15 Which have forsaken the right way, and are gone astray, following the way of Balaam the son of Bosor, who loved the wages of unrighteousness;

*Jude calls it the error of Balaam for reward.*

JUDE 1:

11 Woe unto them! for they have gone in the way of Cain, and ran greedily after the error of Balaam for reward, and perished in the gainsaying of Core.

*What Jude identified as the error of Balaam, is revealed to the church in Pergomos to be, in fact, a doctrine.*

REVELATION 2:

14 But I have a few things against thee, because thou hast there them that hold the doctrine of Balaam, who taught Balac to cast a stumblingblock before the children of Israel, to eat things sacrificed unto idols, and to commit fornication.

*The fruit of the doctrine of Balaam was to partake of things offered to idols and it caused fornication. Fornication can be spiritual as well as physical or natural.*

REVELATION 18

9 And the kings of the earth, who have committed fornication and lived deliciously with her, shall bewail her, and lament for her, when they shall see the smoke of her burning,

*The fornication of Babylon is a system not a person. Their fornication was in the spirit.*

*Let’s take a scriptural look at Balaam and directly compare him with William Branham. There is no question that Balaam heard from God directly.*

NUMBERS 22:

9 And God came unto Balaam, and said, What men are these with thee?

NUMBERS 23:

16 And the LORD met Balaam, and put a word in his mouth, and said, Go again unto Balak, and say thus.

*Also, I believe William Branham heard from God directly, as anyone’s healing would be a gift from God. Some were told by prophecy they would get well, and some did. Some, of course, did not. I believe the ability to tell a person’s disease and name is also supernatural.*

*Balaam, like William Branham, saw and spoke to an angel.*

NUMBERS 22:

31 Then the LORD opened the eyes of Balaam, and he saw the angel of the LORD standing in the way, and his sword drawn in his hand: and he bowed down his head, and fell flat on his face.

*William Branham many times tells of seeing and hearing an angel speak.*

53-1109 AFRICA.TRIP.REPORT\_ OWENSBORO.KY MONDAY\_

E-48 So then, we--we... He went in there, and the Angel of the Lord told me, said, "You go, wake up Billy, and tell him that tomorrow morning this storm, or weather is going to clear up.

*Balaam did something that no prophet true to the Lord ever did or any real God-sent prophet ever would do. Although God did speak to him, he also used enchantments and divinations to contact the spiritual realm.*

NUMBERS 24:

1 And when Balaam saw that it pleased the LORD to bless Israel, he went not, as at other times, to seek for enchantments, but he set his face toward the wilderness.

Enchantments is a word from Strong’s Hebrew lexicon numbers 5172 nachash also 5173 a primitive root; to practice divination, divine, observe signs, learn by experience, diligently observe, practice fortunetelling, take as an omen to observe the signs/omens. *This was strictly forbidden by the Mosaic Law which Israel had already been given.*

LEVITICUS 19:

26 Ye shall not eat any thing with the blood: neither shall ye use enchantment, nor observe times.

*William Branham called these enchantments or divinations “parables” more than once as he spoke of Balaam.*

53-0329 ISRAEL.AND.THE.CHURCH.5\_ JEFFERSONVILLE.IN IC 129-147

71 But listen, he showed him just so much of Israel, then he took him back and showed him so much here. But when he come to a place... And Balaam, he thought, "Surely if Israel had done wrong..--- He'd throw out his prophecy like that, and go forth and take up his mantle and his **parable**; and instead of cursing, it would be a blessing fall back to them

53-1129A THE.FAITH.THAT.WAS.ONCE.DELIVERED.TO.THE.SAINTLooky here. Then I want you to notice just before I close now. Here come these fundamentals. My, they were going to put a curse on this, show him the utmost parts. And so away went the **prophet**. **He took up his parable** to find the Spirit, and when he found the Spirit of God, God said, "Don't you say a thing but what I put in your mouth."

*William Branham also identified Balaam as a prophet but the scripture identifies him differently.*

JOSHUA 13:

22 † Balaam also the son of Beor, the **soothsayer,** did the children of Israel slay with the sword among them that were slain by them.

“Soothsayer” is a word from the Hebrew lexicon: 7080 qacam {kaw-sam'} to practice divination, divine. *Balaam was religious; he offered the correct sacrifices; and he heard from God but was still a soothsayer.* *I believe if Balaam were alive today, he would, like William Branham have thousands of followers.*

*William Branham also took up his parables which were called enchantments or divination when Balaam used them.*

53-0512 SPEAK.TO.THE.ROCK\_ JONESBORO.AR TUESDAY\_

« E-46 But now, look. A seer, his subconscious is not back there, neither is it here. It's right here. You don't go to sleep; you just break from one into the other: one into the other. And when you just let it alone, it comes at its own leisure. This is... But here it's just like raising up looking through a knothole to see something. *You're praying. You're taking up a parable, which is words that God gave me alone to know.*

*And it keep just repeating, then you break and you see the person as you're contacting them,* they catch their spirit. It goes to them. Then you just see something happen, maybe it'll close off. Maybe you'll look again, you'll see something else that'll close on.

*Notice William Branham called his ability to see spiritual things a parable with words that he keeps repeating*

Jesus said: MATTHEW 6:

7 But when ye pray, use not vain repetitions, as the heathen do: for they think that they shall be heard for their much speaking.

*He first described it as three high words*.

48-0302 EXPERIENCES\_ PHOENIX.A

Now, here's what it is. There's three words that I have to repeat at that time. See? And it's the three high words of the Bible. No mortal on earth know it. See? And when I ask that, and then I feel that drop, then it comes shakes back to a place in return of that spirit. Then the...?... healed. That's the reason you hear me say that. See? That's what takes place.

*He mentioned his secret parable many times. The sorcerers and magicians of Egypt also used enchantments, meaning in this scripture, secrecy, mystery or enchantment.*

EXODUS 7:

22 And the magicians of Egypt did so with their enchantments: and Pharaoh's heart was hardened, neither did he hearken unto them; as the LORD had said.

*William Branham was describing the way his ministry worked also but failed to see that true prophets sent by God do not need a parable or secret words*.

53-0609A DEMONOLOGY.RELIGIOUS.REALM\_ CONNERSVILLE.IN DE 41-

« 53 I have a way of doing things that nobody knows but God and I. So that's... I take up a parable and go to meet a man's spirit.

53-0612 PALMERWORM.LOCUST.CANKERWORM.CATERPILLAR\_ CONNERSVILLE.IN

It's a Divine gift that I take up my own parable of work that He told me, and--and go forward to meet the thing. Then you see, **you're forcing yourself into something. See what I mean?**

*I believe honest people would understand that if something were the will of God you would not have to force yourself into it by repeating words*.

56-0407 BLIND.BARTIMAEUS\_ CHICAGO.IL SATURDAY\_

« E-74 "The Messiah surely is alive today." We'd say wouldn't we? All right. May the Lord grant it, sister, your desire. Now, I shall take up my parable to go to meet Him to see what He will tell me.

*So Balaam did hear from God and it was correct but the way he contacted God was called enchantments or divination. His counsel was not from God and it caused the children of Israel to commit fornication.*

NUMBERS 31:

16 Behold, these caused the children of Israel, through the counsel of Balaam, to commit trespass against the LORD in the matter of Peor, and there was a plague among the congregation of the LORD.

*I believe William Branham also heard from God but by his teaching causes people to commit spiritual fornication.*

*Balaam was known to receive money or rewards for his ability to divine*.

NUMBERS 22

7 And the elders of Moab and the elders of Midian departed with the **rewards of divination** in their hand; and they came unto Balaam, and spake unto him the words of Balak.

*Also any so-called prophet who would use a gift that worked by enchantments or divination or parables … or whatever else it may be called … is also guilty of receiving a reward for divination.*

*No prophet of God used anything other than prayer when seeking God and one time a minstrel which was a musician. When they were shown a vision, it came by the will of God not because they used divination, enchantments or parables.*

*Divination is used by prophets who lie in the name of the Lord but were not sent by him.*

JEREMIAH 14:

14 Then the LORD said unto me, The prophets prophesy lies in my name: I sent them not, neither have I commanded them, neither spake unto them: they prophesy unto you a false vision and divination, and a thing of nought, and the deceit of their heart.

EZEKIEL 13

6 They have seen vanity and lying divination, saying, The LORD saith: and the LORD hath not sent them: and they have made others to hope that they would confirm the word.

*This scripture also mentions a few other things to which we should take note*.

DEUTERONOMY 18:

10 There shall not be found among you any one that maketh his son or his daughter to pass through the fire, or that useth divination, or an observer of times, or an enchanter, or a witch,

*An observer of times also means to make things appear to bring clouds and enchanter also means to observe signs and omens. Did William Branham use times or observation of the stars or moon or times?*

*His life started under a sign according to his words.*

52-0713A EARLY.SPIRITUAL.EXPERIENCES\_ HAMMOND.I

She said, "Do you know that you were born under a sign?

And she said, "Maybe, I better explain myself." She said, "I'm an astrologist."

55-0605 FELLOWSHIP.THROUGH.THE.RECONCILIATION.OF.THE.BLOOD\_

The great pyramid, you who study that, points to the end time, the one that Enoch made. The zodiac, it started off with a virgin, the first coming of Christ. It's ending up with Leo the lion, the second coming. It's at hand.

*The****zodiac****, the 12 signs listed in a****horoscope****, actually starts with Aries and ends with Pisces. No one can deny that William Branham used these things in his ministry to make points.*

60-0518 ADOPTION.2\_ JEFFERSONVILLE.IN AD

Now, and in the Bible, we're living in the last days, the top of the pyramid, the crossed fishes of the cancer age in the zodiac, in the time of the coming of the Leo the lion, in the capping Stone, and in the days of the manifestation of the sons of God in the Bible. See? See where we're at? We're right at the end time.

*He also told his followers to follow the zodiac.*

60-0522E ADOPTION.4\_ JEFFERSONVILLE.IN AD.PT.4 SUNDAY\_

20 God wrote three Bibles. One of them was the Zodiac in the skies. That's the first Bible. Man was to look up to realize that God is from above. Follow the Zodiac; did you ever study it?

*Although William Branham claims to use signs as scripture teaches is divination or witchcraft, he doesn’t get it right. Cancer is from June 21 to July 22 and changes every thirty years or so, unlike Christ and the Scriptures who do not change. It does not change as an age only in monthly cycles.*

*Did William Branham hear from God? Yes. I believe this statement is from God*.

65-0220 GOD'S.CHOSEN.PLACE.OF.WORSHIP\_ JEFFERSONVILLE.IN V-5 N-7 \_

112 .God's chosen place to worship, Jesus Christ. That's the only place there is. That's the only Name God has for salvation. That's what He has named the family in Heaven, when it's on earth, is Jesus Christ.

113 O church, O people, sinner friend, don't trust in nothing else but Jesus Christ. Don't trust in any preacher. Don't trust in anybody else to save you. Trust not in any church, any creed, any denomination.

*Did Balaam hear from God. Yes.*

NUMBERS 22:

» 12 † And God said unto Balaam, Thou shalt not go with them; thou shalt not curse the people: for they are blessed.

*I know that whatever name they are given by men being prophets, fortune tellers, soothsayers, mediums or whatever else they may be called, there are people who can somehow break into a spiritual realm and bring back supernatural understanding. Many of these also hear from God himself as Balaam did.*

*There was a man in Poplar Bluff, Mo by the name of Sherman Mendenhall who had this ability. I personally know of prophecies and secrets he told to people I knew, and I personally saw them come to past. He told one man that his sister was stepping out on her husband; where to find them when they met; and the time to be there when it would happen. It happened exactly as he said it would.*

*A friend I worked with went to see Mr. Mendenhall as he and his wife were trying to have a child and the doctors had failed to help. He told me when he walked in Mr. Mendenhall told him where his wife worked, and she had just gotten that job and told him he would embrace a baby in one year. I saw him with the baby about a year later.*

*My aunt in Atkins, Arkansas also went to a soothsayer when my grandmother was in the hospital and by all doctors’ accounts was dying. The soothsayer told her not to worry about her mother for she would live for several more years but sadly her father would soon die first. I also witnessed this and know it came to past exactly as my aunt was told.*

*Religion often uses the same methods but do not have the ability Balaam or William Branham had but they do achieve results. I am thinking mostly of Pentecostal churches who, in desperation, try to have people speak in what they call tongues or to receive other spiritual gifts.*

*In my experience, I was told to praise the Lord by repeating the words of “thank you Jesus,” “praise the Lord” and “hallelujah” until I actually spoke in a language completely out of my control. I have no idea what I was saying and make no claims as to what spirit control I was or was not under. I know that is not God’s way of giving a gift.*

*Some would ask if I were calling William Branham a soothsayer? My answer is that he is what the Scripture and his own words make him to be. What you believe him to be or not to be is up to you.*

*Also, regarding what is called “falling out in the Spirit,” Balaam seemed to do the same thing.*

NUMBERS 24:

4 He hath said, which heard the words of God, which saw the vision of the Almighty*, falling into a trance*, but having his eyes open:

*Falling into a trance does not seem to be in the original Hebrew text but has several interpretations.*

[**Literal Standard Version**](https://biblehub.com/lsv/numbers/24.htm)
An affirmation of him who is hearing sayings of God, Who sees a vision of the Almighty, Falling—and eyes uncovered

*Some may think they are contacting God by repeating words or “falling in the spirit” and may be contacting God by enchantments but their experience would not be accepted by God.*

*Thank you.*